THE
DISSEMINATOR
Nova Scotia Provincial Library
ISSN:1209-2473

V.10, N.1, December 2002/January 2003

IN THIS ISSUE

News from the Regions
Nova Scotia Provincial Library News
Staffing Notes
Hot Tips and Updates

COLUMNS

Reference on the Net
LINKed
Professional Reading

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Smart Libraries http://www.valleylibrary.ca

In late November, four regional libraries interested in learning more about the virtual library model developed as part of the Smart Libraries project attended a demonstration conducted by AVRL and WCRL. The main features/services of the site were demonstrated along with the administrative counterparts.

The administrative or maintenance components of the site are of great interest. The project is unique in that it allows staff with a range of technical skills to add content to the site by eliminating the need to know any web page programming language or how to do file transfers, etc. This ease of use ensures sustainability of the site by existing staff.

Like all projects under FundyWeb, Nova Scotia's Smart Communities Demonstration project, the virtual library model is replicable. The product will be made available to interested libraries as an entire package or as individual components.

During the next few months promotional material will be published to promote library services to AVRL residents. Development work is being done on statistical and evaluation tools. These tools will be

2008-00077/

important in deciding which features of the site will be continued.

The Smart City Summit 2003 in Ottawa, and the Atlantic Provinces Library Association Conference in Newfoundland have invited AVRL and WCRL to present the project in a panel discussion at their annual conferences. The project is gaining wide-spread recognition.

Branch Services

The mobile branches will have new ultra-thin monitors, which can be mounted to a wall or nearby shelving unit, installed. This will greatly relieve congested work space on the buses.

Due to the enthusiastic response to the October program, *Baby's First Books*, a partnership has developed with the Annapolis County Learning Network to offer *Time for a Rhyme Group*. This is a weekly program, which takes place at the Dr. Frank W. Morse Memorial Library in Lawrencetown. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their babies and preschoolers each Tuesday morning when adults can read to the children, review books and toys, and share general discussion on child-related issues.

The Annapolis Royal Library hosted an informative and enjoyable evening of *Home Decorating Ideas from the Experts*. Local professional decorators, Tania Rolland and Gail Longmire, were on hand to discuss such topics as colour selection, furniture arrangement, decorating for Christmas, and much more.

An author reading at the Wolfville Memorial Library on November 25 was attended by 30 people. Author Pat Lotz read from her book *Banker, Builder, Blockade Runner*, an unusual biography of James Forman, a man accused of embezzling over $300,000 from the Bank of Nova Scotia. This reading was sponsored by Gaspereau Press.

Middleton Library offered several pre-school craft and story times throughout the Fall with special Christmas programs for ages 4-11 in December.

A digital camera was purchased for the Middleton Library through funds made available from the Middleton and District Friends of the Library Society. The camera will be used as a teaching tool in future computer workshops for the public.

The Kentville Library celebrated the Christmas holidays on December 21 with the sounds of the season. The public was treated to the musical selections of the local saxophone quartet, *Saxappeal*.

The Windsor Library is currently offering *Stories with Tracey* on Sunday afternoons. Children are invited to listen to stories while their parents browse, or parents can sit and enjoy them too!

Computer-related workshops for all ages are available in most AVRL libraries. The number of one-on-one tutorials in several branches has been increased to meet the demand.

On January 21, a workshop was held for all branch managers, on the use of the Nova Scotia Health

Network (NSHN) website. This hands-on session at the Wolfville Memorial Library, was presented by the Network's trainers.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

On Monday December 2, 2002 Anne Gervais, Education Liaison Officer, Statistics Canada conducted an E-STAT workshop at the Gates Lab, James McConnell Memorial Library. E-STAT 2002 is a comprehensive education resource designed by Statistics Canada and made available exclusively to Canadian education institutions free at **http://www.statcan.ca**. E-STAT provides quick access to data from CANSIM, Stats Canada's socio-economic database. It is a great resource, especially for the education community.

Fifteen people, which included staff from the University College of Cape Breton, the Cape Breton/Victoria Regional School Board, the Nova Scotia Community College - Marconi Campus, and CBRL, attended the E-STAT workshop.

E-STAT workshop participants appreciated the opportunity to become more familiar with accessing census and socio-economic information.

Planning Winter/Spring programming at CBRL is well under way. Some of the confirmed evening programs include *Effective Public Speaking*, *Web Awareness*, *Fitness Regimes: an Overview*, *Wills and Estate Planning*, and a four part slide series entitled *In Search of the Hebrides*. These programs will continue into May and offer a varied and interesting line-up. The *Saturday Storytimes* have

resumed after the Christmas rush. *Pre-school Storytime*, *Toddler Time Storytime* and a *Beginning With Books Seminar*, will begin in February. In the past *Pre-school* and *Toddler Time Storytimes* ran for four consecutive weeks. This year CBRL has extended the program by one week as suggested by participants.

Cumberland Regional Library (CURL)

Throughout the month of December, CURL held its first ever *Food For Fines* where patrons could have an overdue fine pardoned if they brought in a non-perishable food donation. Donations went to the Food Assistance Network in Amherst and to local food banks in each community. The program was not only successful in raising donations for the Food Bank, but also enabled the library to have materials that had incurred large fines returned.

The Springhill Library held its annual Christmas Open House on December 6. Among the guests was Murray Scott, MLA for Cumberland South and Speaker of the House.

Once again this year the Amherst Branch held a Christmas Book Tree fundraiser and several books were adopted. All branches sold Book Lover's Calendars, which were purchased through local retailer Whitehots.

CURL was the recipient of a *Share the Stories* grant to purchase a collection of board books for babies. This will be a great boost to the collection and will be used to help fulfill the goal of providing more services to preschoolers and their families.

Lots of exciting programs are planned this winter including a rock concert. The Moncton band *A Story Told* performs covers of popular groups such as *Nickelback*, *Creed*, and *Blink 182*, as well as their own original material. CURL's IT Trainer, Kevin Madden, plays guitar for the band. It is hoped that this fundraiser will encourage teens to come to the library.

The Moncton band *A Story Told* performed at the Amherst Library on Saturday, February 8 and it was a rocking good time!

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

Eileen Hanlon, Library Assistant at Canso Library, was recently honored for her 20 years of service to ECRL. The presentation, attended by Canso Branch staff and representatives from Headquarters, was hosted in Canso at the home of Board Chair, Joe Walsh and wife Grace. Eileen was presented with a staff award certificate for her years of service and also received a small token of appreciation from Acting CEO Dave Cumby. Mr. Cumby noted that Eileen and co-worker Sandra Dixon have always been pro-active and creative, especially in terms of children's programming, often attracting packed houses to their children's events. Eileen related how she and Sandra even made a brief foray into the clown business following one of their successful programs. According to Sandra, Eileen "has performed all her duties in a conscientious and capable manner, often above and beyond the call of duty when needed . . . and her artistic skills have been invaluable."

ECRL's Acting CEO Dave Cumby, Library Assistant Eileen Hanlon and Board Chair Joe Walsh.

The *People at the Library* (P@L) project staff, funded through the Labour Market Development Agreement with HRDC, have been very busy since the beginning of the project in early November. Gina Tagliapetra and Crystal DeCoste have prepared their materials and are now offering workshops at branches, Library Link sites, and to CAP organizations. James Cameron, computer technician hired for the project, received basic training on the network and hardware/software configurations as well as becoming familiar with the Library's web site. He has been making support visits to the branches and Library link sites and actively working on website changes and improvements.

ECRL concluded its inaugural collection fundraising campaign, *Share a Book, Build A Community 2002,* on November 30. The 6-week campaign was successful and extremely well-received. The funds will be very useful in expanding the library's collection in the branches and Libr@ry Links sites throughout the counties of Inverness, Richmond, and Guysborough. With the corporate support from Incana Corporation, who provided an initial $3,000 contribution and also matched public donations up to $2,000, the total amount raised through this Fall's *Share a Book* project has now reached $8,296.70.

Sherbrooke Library staff again delighted the community by participating in the *Adopt a Door* program. The program is one of the annual Sherbrooke Old Fashioned Christmas festivities held at the historic village during the last weekend of November and first weekend of December. The tree using recycled paperback books was fashioned on the door of the Information Center.

ECRL's Crystal DeCoste, P@L computer trainer, shows off the winning design!

Christmas in Mulgrave! A very successful evening of *Christmas Decorating Ideas for your Kitchen* was hosted recently by Library Assistants, Joyce Oliver-Snair and Sharon Reid. Both Joyce and Sharon indicated that they "may not be Martha Stewart or Debbie Travis, but we are two women with lots of ideas to share!" The event drew a crowd of more than 35 participants and received rave reviews from all the attendees who were given inexpensive decorating tips and ideas to use in their homes. The ideas ranged from creating a bucket of snowballs using a painted clay pot filled with styrofoam balls, to crafting Christmas wreaths using items from a dollar store, and really offered something for everyone. Participants were also treated to refreshments prepared by Terri Morse, Library Assistant. Rumour has it that the happy participants have already pressured Joyce and Sharon to start preparing for next year's presentation!

Halifax Regional Library (HRL)

Young Borrower Wins *Read to Me* Draw

Nine-month-old Maxwell Mailhot was the lucky winner of HRL's *Read to Me* prize draw. *Read to Me*, a Nova Scotia Family Literacy program sponsored by the IWK Health Centre and promoted by Nova Scotia libraries, invites parents to sign up newborns for their very own library card.

An invitation to parents to register their baby is included with books and literacy materials given to every newborn delivered at the IWK, Yarmouth and Cape Breton Regional Hospitals. Plans are underway to expand the program to other centres around the province.

Prize donations for the draw came from Woozles and Tattletales Bookstores, HRL and the Stork Shop at the IWK Health Centre.

Check out the Library's website at **www.halifax.library.ns.ca** for more details.

Baby Maxwell and his mother Denice, shown seated, enjoy one of the new books with (left to right) Karen Dahl, HRL, Carol McDougall, *Read to Me!* and Heather Mackenzie, HRL.

IWK Health Centre Foundation Supports Early Literacy Programs

Fall 2002 marked the official launch of *Baby's First Books* infant literacy programs at HRL. This new programming initiative, made possible by a $9,500 grant from the IWK Health Centre Foundation External Grants Program, allowed for staff training and program resources to be provided at seven of HRL's branches. As a result of this, *Baby's First Books* programs were offered throughout the Fall, and will be continuing into 2003, with new locations coming on board.

Through stories, songs, rhymes and play, *Baby's First Books* provides children (from birth to 23 months) with a language rich environment, essential to brain development and provides the necessary foundation for the development of literacy and language skills. The program also naturally fosters positive parent-child interaction. For parents of newborns at the IWK Health Centre, *Baby's First Books* has been promoted as an excellent follow-up to the *Read to Me* program at the hospital, which gives families of newborns gift books and resource information on the importance of sharing books and language with babies.

Baby's First Books fills an identified gap in library services for infants and toddlers, with previous programs generally only serving ages 2 and up. Previous pilot projects for the program demonstrated a strong base of community support and the statistics for the Fall round of programs show that a strong need still exists.

Part of the funds received from the IWK Health Centre Foundation were used to send 30 Youth Services Librarians and Youth Programmers from around the region to a special day-long workshop on early literacy, which was part of the 2002 Canadian Library Association Conference held in June in Halifax.

The remainder of the grant was divided equally to provide both high quality program resources (infant-appropriate toys and other program materials) and enhanced lending collections of infant board books at all branches in the region.

This very successful funding partnership with the IWK Health Centre Foundation has enabled HRL to greatly enhance services to families by offering early literacy programs on a long-term and sustainable basis. The partnership also provides enhanced collections to support these programs.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

On Monday, January 27, the New Glasgow branch of PARL held the first in a new monthly program for seniors called the *New Glasgow Library Seniors Café*. The inaugural event drew over 60 interested souls who braved the threat of freezing rain. To start the program with a bang, local bluegrass quartet *Rusty Nails* was invited to entertain and welcome everyone to the Library. After the music, pound cakes and coffee kept the mood light as patrons mingled and were introduced to what the Library has to offer.

Local Bluegrass band *Rusty Nails* performed during the inaugural opening of the *New Glasgow Library's Senior's Café*.

Initiated as a community outreach effort to introduce library services to this age group, the program will be held the last Monday of each month from September through May and feature speakers and topics of interest to seniors. Every session will consist of two segments: the first part being structured with a guest speaker and the second hour consisting of informal introduction to library services. Future topics will address issues facing seniors today, which include estate and will planning, Tai Chi, income tax help, health issues, and the always popular computer training.

In December the New Glasgow Library started a new Christmas tradition by holding a *Read With Santa* program for children. The event featured a puppet show, stories, and a special visit

from Santa played by Constable John Kennedy of PARL's *Adopt A Library Literacy Program*. Santa read the Clement Moore seasonal classic *The Night Before Christmas* and told the children about the importance of reading books. In an effort to reach even more fans of Santa, it is hoped that in future years the *Read With Santa* program will be held in at least three PARL branches.

The Adopt A Library's Constable John Kennedy plays Santa to a happy young PARL patron.

In an ongoing effort to make library services more accessible to the public, PARL has made it possible for its patrons to view the status of their library accounts online. To enable them to serve themselves, patrons can open PARL's home page at www.parl.ns.ca and click on *Your Account*. Here the patron enters their library card number and PIN. This convenient feature enables the library user to review what items they have borrowed, view titles they have requested, or discover if they have any overdue items.

While the opening day of fishing season may be months away, winter is the time anglers replace that lost fishing fly. To help meet this need, the New Glasgow Library invited the Pictou County Rivers Association to hold a series of free fly tying classes for beginners. These informal sessions, which started January 30, are being taught by County resident Parker Wong, who has held similar events for organizations in Pictou County. Materials and tools for this program are supplied by the Pictou County Rivers Association at no cost.

PARL recently filled three positions within the Community Access Program (CAP). Assuming the responsibilities of Coordinator for the Northern Region will be county resident Bob Curley. Taking over the Pictou County Coordinator job will be Sandy Tate, who will be operating out of a new location on the second floor of the Trenton Town Building, close to PARL's Trenton Branch. In Antigonish County Melanie Pauls will be the new representative for that region.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

SSRL wrapped up the *2002 Adopt-A-Book Campaign* in late December. It was by all accounts a success, with borrowers, businesses and others generously donating over $6,000 to adopt 229 books. This was an increase of approximately six books per week over other campaigns. This year SSRL had sponsorship from Lighthouse Publishing, who provided free and subsidized advertising space, as well as free printing for full colour bookmarks and gift cards.

SSRL Board member Alan Wilson, shown on the left, was recently presented the LBANS Award of Merit by Dr. Norman Horrocks, Professor Emeritus, School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie Univesity.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Library Card Month Draws 602 New Members

During last Fall's *Library Month Campaign*, WCRL registered 602 new members, which Deputy Director Virginia Stoddard says must be a new record. In total 657 new membership cards were issued, the balance being renewals of memberships that had become inactive.

One of the main focuses of the *Library Card Month Campaign* was registration of students and teachers in schools throughout Yarmouth, Shelburne and Digby counties. This year six schools recorded 100 percent registration of students and staff. In recognition of that accomplishment, WCRL presented certificates of merit to each of the schools. A draw for a box of books, donated by Scholastic Inc., was held for the schools which achieved 100 per cent registration. Presentations were made to École Saint Albert in Salmon River and Hillcrest Academy in Shelburne.

This important annual initiative is sponsored by Optipress Inc., publishers of 25 community newspapers in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, including the Shelburne Coast Guard, Yarmouth Vanguard and Digby Courier.

McKay Memorial Library senior library clerk Edith Bower (left) receives applause from WCRL's Joanne Head (seated), school librarian Betty Lou Benham and primary students at Hillcrest Academy during Library Card Month.

Support Letter Generates Provincial Media Coverage

A media campaign, launched in support of a letter to municipal councils from the Chair of WCRL, garnered provincial, regional and local media coverage throughout the holiday season. The letter appealed to municipal councils to lobby the province to honour the 2002 funding formula for libraries.

Management decided to issue a press release after one media outlet carried a story based on the letter. The press releases went out to media outlets on December 17.

Response was immediate. All regional print media, as well as the Chronicle Herald, picked up the story. Board Chair Gary Archibald conducted numerous interviews, including a 20-minute special report on the CJLS Radio current affairs show, The Weekender and with CBC's First Edition. Board member Jean Melanson conducted an interview with French radio station CIFA.

WCRL staff members were kept abreast of developments. As a result, when friends and family talked about the news, WCRL had nearly 60 ambassadors able to explain the Library's point-of-view.

Partners In Operation Books - Over 7,000 Books Collected For Young Hospital Patients

Radio CJLS' Operation Books Christmas campaign delivered books to young patients in the three hospitals operated by the South West Nova District Health Authority. By campaign's end in excess of 7,000 books and $4,125 had been donated to the campaign. WCRL was delighted to partner with CJLS in this campaign, which put books into the hands of children facing hospitalization.

Book drop-offs were created in all 10 branches. New and like new books were solicited. Over a three week period branch libraries in Digby, Yarmouth, and Shelburne counties received donations of approximately 3,000 books. WCRL staff got involved as well, both individually and

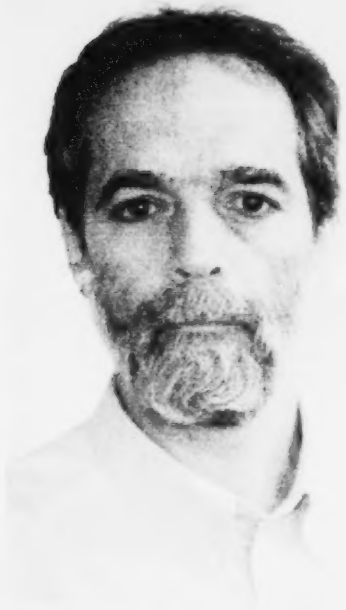
through their Union, CUPE local 2530, which donated $200 for the purchase of books. As well, dozens of cash donations were received.

Books purchased with some of the cash donations were selected by WCRL's Joanne Head, Coordinator, Library Services.

Shown left to right, Ray Zinck, Radio CJLS' Vice-president of News and WCRL's Joanne Head present a mobile cart filled with books to South West Nova District Health Authority CEO Blaise MacNeil and Wendy Siddall, Yarmouth Regional Hospital's maternal/child unit manager.

New Faces At WCRL

There have been two additions to the management team at WCRL. Richard Beharriell joined the staff as a Coordinator of Library Services and is responsible for the Digby, Weymouth and Westport library branches. Prior to accepting this position Richard worked as a reserve clerk with WCRL since 2001. Richard has a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Western Ontario, a Masters in Environmental Studies and a Doctorate in Education. Before joining WCRL, Richard worked for many years as a magazine editor, researcher and consultant. Richard replaces Librarian Pat Lee, who has returned to Halifax Regional Municipality.



Richard Beharriell, the new Coordinator of Library Services for the Digby, Weymouth and Westport library branches.

Also joining the WCRL's management team is Yarmouth native Belle Hatfield. Belle has been appointed Public Relations Manager. Belle's responsibilities include working with the media and the public to promote WCRL, its 10 branches and their programs, and to build relationships between WCRL and its community and business partners. Belle is a lifelong resident of Yarmouth and joins the Library's staff after a distinguished 20-year career in journalism. Belle replaces Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin, who has accepted a position as Coordinator of the Yarmouth Hospital Charitable Foundation.

Belle Hatfield, WCRL's newly appointed Public Relations Manager.

Health Net Training Session Prepares Library Staff and Volunteers

WCRL hosted two Nova Scotia Health Network training sessions for staff and CAP volunteers at the Izaak Walton Killam Library in Yarmouth on Monday, Jan. 20. Participants came from branches throughout the tri-counties for the three-hour sessions led by Jeremy Tait of Industry Canada's Student Connection program.

The Nova Scotia Health Network offers one-stop shopping for anyone seeking health information. It includes access to reputable health sites, databases, full-text journals and libraries.

When it comes to health, it is important that the information is reliable. Tait said health consumers should ask themselves:

- **is it from a reputable source?**
- **is the information up-to-date?**
- **Who is the author and is there a bias?**

Tait said the links available on the Nova Scotia Health Network "are already peer-reviewed", which provides a higher level of reliability than would be found on a general search engine like Google. However, the health information from any source should never be used to self-treat or make a diagnosis. The Health Network gives health consumers a powerful tool to become more engaged as partners with their health care team. The information can help patients, "ask the right questions that will stimulate discussion with their health care professionals," expressed Tait.

Participants received an overview of how to search for health information on the internet and what to keep in mind when evaluating information. Library staff members are often approached by library users in search of health information. With this training staff will be better prepared to help.

The roots of the Health Network began as a local initiative of WCRL and the region's health community to establish a web-accessible database of local community health resources. The Nova Scotia Health Network has grown from those early efforts, spearheaded by Yarmouth Hospital's Librarian Jackie MacDonald and WCRL's Director, Trudy Amirault.

To access the Nova Scotia Health Network go to www.nshealthnetwork.ca. The site is also available through the library's website at www.westerncounties.ca. Click on the recommended links menu and look for health under information sources.

WCRL Deputy Director Virginia Stoddard is shown with Industry Canada's Jeremy Tait during the NS Health Network sessions held in Yarmouth.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Christmas Elves Run Amok!

Ray Whitley, Coordinator, Production, Learning and Resources Technology (LRT) reported that "Once again this year, a merry crew of elves was busy at Learning Resources and Technology and the Provincial Library (you know, 3770 Kempt Road...) leading the Christmas adoption of a needy local family. Stacy Barnes (Technology Recycling Program), Bernadette Kennedy, Dale Macmillan, Jeff Mercer, Gillian Webster, Ray Whitley, and their Fearless leader, Norene Smiley (Hackmatack Childrens' Book Awards) variously administered a gift pledging Christmas tree, coerced and charmed colleagues into betting on 50-50 draws, and organized the purchase and preparation of presents.

"Actually, the 50-50 draws were easy, " admitted Elf Whitley. "Quite early on, we discovered that people were only too willing to buy tickets if we just promised to 'stop jingling our !!@#*** bells.' So, we just added bells for our second and third draws."

"A total of three draws netted over $370, together with the $100 surplus of the building's staff coffee fund (thanks to the coffee committee), AND a great selection of presents from the gift tree for all four members of a single parent family somewhere in Metro. The generosity and thoughtfulness of the erstwhile elves' colleagues gob-smacked even them. "Some people donated not only the gift they pledged for, but also another," said Ms. Smiley. "It's wonderful."

"Everything came together December 18 in a wrapping bee during which rotations of staff spent their coffee break wrapping the gifts and swigging complimentary Cranberry soda or eggnog. Rarely in the history of the Christmas Spirit has so much been wrapped, by so many, in so short a time.

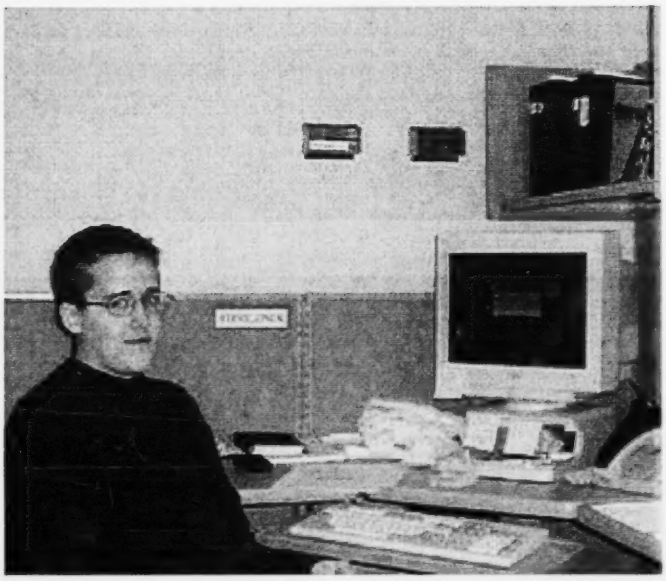
"When all the expenses were in, all the gifts bought, wrapped and tagged, and every Christmas wish expressed by the family fulfilled, there was *still* $133.35 left in the elves' Christmas stocking. Other, lesser fairies- Enron Elves, for example - might have secretly diverted this remainder into a numbered Swiss bank account, fed VLTs, or held a beer bash, but No! The LRT/ NSPL bunch donated the entire amount to the Metro Food Bank's Christmas drive. Proper thing, too.

"Congratulations to the elves and to all the Kempt Road staff who contributed, for a good job, well done. They made Christmas merry for a family out there who really needed one."

Shown left to right, NSPL and LRT Christmas elves Stacy and MacKenzie Barnes, Ray Whitley, Norene Smiley, Elizabeth Parnell, Jeff Mercer, Bernadette Kennedy, Stacey Cote and Lynne McCulley.

STAFFING NOTES

On December 16 Steve Zinck joined the Technical Services Automation Team at NSPL as NcompasS System Administrator. Steve was previously system administrator at Dalhousie University's Mathematics and Statistics Department and brings a solid background in Unix system administration to his new position. After a week of intensive training in Montreal on MultiLIS, Steve is getting up-to-speed on the special world of Integrated Library Systems.



NSPL's NcompasS System Administrator Steve Zinck.

HOT TIPS & UPDATES

NOVA SCOTIA REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY INTERLIBRARY LOAN MEETING

Frank Oram, Professional Services Librarian, NSPL reported that a regional public library interlibrary loan meeting was hosted by NSPL on Friday, January 10, 2003. Eighteen people, plus four NSPL staff members were in attendance. This turnout was excellent, given the inclement weather conditions on that day. A wide range of issues, including placing holds in another library's bank, reciprocal borrowing, the library book rate, how to deal with library book clubs, interlibrary loan management software, requesting loans from US libraries, and requesting A-G Canada searches from NSPL were discussed. A number of positive results such as a revised interlibrary loan chart, a revised e-mail list of interlibrary loan contacts, an agreement to produce a stamp for copyright purposes, and a procedure to place holds on materials in another library's bank were achieved. However, the biggest benefit of such a meeting was the exchange of ideas and knowledge among participants. All those in attendance felt that future meetings should be held at least once a year and preferably in the Spring or Fall to avoid bad weather conditions.

211 PLANNING FOR NOVA SCOTIA

211 is the newest three digit phone number dedicated to bringing people and services together. The CRTC has provided this number to the United Way to assist Canadians in accessing information and referral services on community, social, health, and government services. 211 significantly improves citizen access to services and provides equitable access to services for everyone. 211 services are now in operation in 26 states in the US. Metro Toronto is the only Canadian 211 service in operation, although planning is underway in Alberta and Manitoba.

A Nova Scotia steering committee, to begin planning for a 211 service, has recently been set up in Nova Scotia. Members of the committee currently include representatives from the United Way, Aliant, Help Lines, public libraries, health authorities, and the Nova Scotia Health Network. Daphne Cragg represents public libraries on the committee, and Michael Colborne represents the Nova Scotia Health Network.

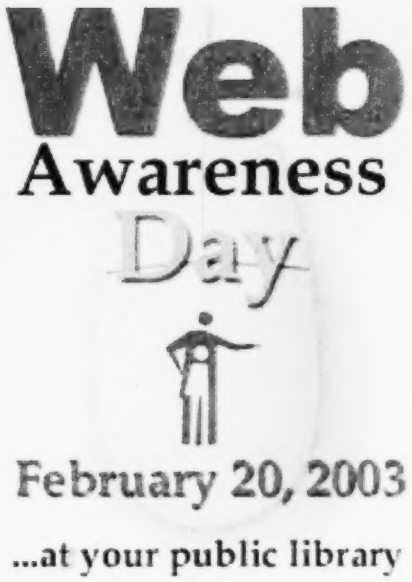
Further information on 211 services in Canada can be found at: http://www.211.ca/.

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH NETWORK TRAINING

Training on the use of the Nova Scotia Health Network web site has continued during January and February. Training sessions have been arranged at all regional libraries and will also be provided to CAP site staff and volunteers and community health board staff. Training is being delivered by Industry Canada's Student Connection Program http://www.studentconnection.ns.ca/.

The Network continues to add links to locally produced health information. One thousand patient care pamphlets from the QEII Health Sciences Centre are currently available through the site. Check out the Network at http://www.nshealthnetwork.org/.

WEB AWARENESS FEBRUARY 20, 2003



Web Awareness Day, February 20, is the result of work done by the Media Awareness Network (MNet), in partnership with the Canadian Library Association (CLA) and Bell Canada. The goal of the program for Web Awareness Day is to provide public libraries with ready-to-use communications materials online to promote the *Web Awareness Canada* (WAC) program and their leadership in delivering Internet literacy resources to their communities. Public libraries in every province are taking part in the first Web Awareness Day through a number of activities. In order to assist with these events, the online *WebAware Tool Kit* for public libraries has a portal at **http://www.cla.ca/webaware/background.htm**.

The theme for Web Awareness Day and the *WebAware* project overall is *Parenting the Net Generation: It's not just by the book anymore*©. The theme speaks to the important role of parents in helping young people become safe and savvy media users and the new Internet literacy role of public libraries.

As an example of what Nova Scotia public libraries are doing to help parents provide this guidance, CBRL is offering a presentation that will provide practical information and tools for managing Internet use in the home. The session is available at both 1:30 and 7:00 p.m. on February 20 at the McConnell Library in Sydney. SSRL's Cheryl Stenstrom in collaboration with local crime prevention officer Susan Ivany, plan to present a series of talks about Internet safety and identity. Topics to be covered will include the Safe Passage module, protecting your information(both on and offline) and online banking security. SSRL has also partnered with the Lunenburg Girl Guides and will be delivering basic safety instruction to the group as part of obtaining their badge. Rather than plan a specific event for Web Awareness Day, WCRL will concentrate on spreading web awareness among youth leaders, teachers, etc., this winter. For example, over the next month WCRL's Joanne Head will be giving the Fact or Folly and the Safe Passage sessions to mentors, staff, parents and volunteers at the Shelburne Youth Centre, as well as presenting both programs to mentors and volunteer staff at the Woods Harbour CAP site. For Web Awareness Week itself, WCRL will highlight web awareness each day on their home page, with a changing daily tip for parents and other adults who work with youth.

WAC is an internationally recognized public education program designed to provide parents and other adults with resources to help young people be safe, well-informed and ethical when they go online. The primary elements include workshops on teaching kids to be safe and responsible online, authenticating online information, and online marketing to kids. WAC has online resources to help parents find great kids' sites, conduct effective online searches, track

where their kids go online, protect their children from online predators, draft their own Family Online Agreement, and much more. MNet's *WAC* program is endorsed by CLA, the Canadian Teachers' Federation, the Canadian Association of Principals, and the Vanier Institute of the Family.

NOVA SCOTIA DIGITAL COLLECTIONS INITIATIVE WEB SITE LAUNCHED!

"Digital technology provides libraries, archives, and museums with exciting opportunities for preserving and sharing their collections", said Provincial Librarian Elizabeth Armstrong at the launch of the Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative Web Site. "Building digital collections contributes to skills development, and allows institutions to make their collections available beyond their walls."

Representatives of universities, public libraries, archives, museums, and heritage societies attended the launch in the Akins Room at the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management on Friday, January 17.

The Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative (NSDCI) was formed in May 2002 following a meeting of interested organizations. The immediate goal was to develop a web site for sharing ideas on potential digital projects, joint training opportunities, and information on funding opportunities. A steering committee will be formed to oversee the Initiative.

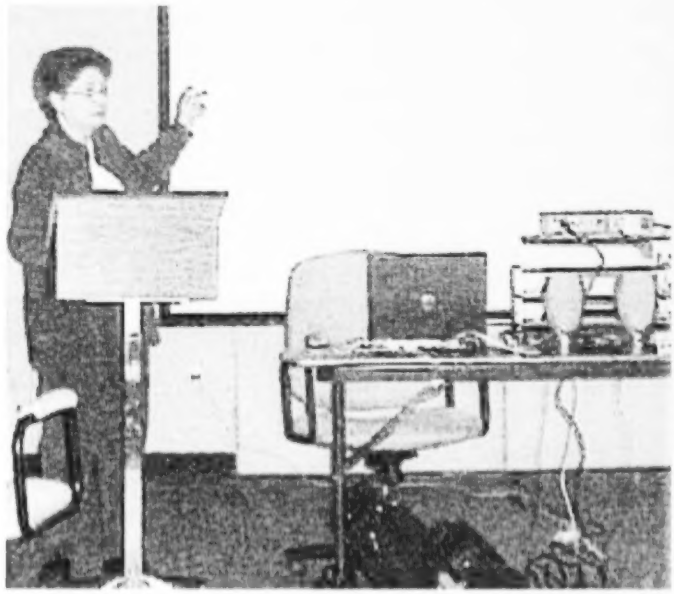
"Different sectors working together and sharing resources and opportunities will increase the ability of all NSDCI members to tell their stories", said Provincial Archivist Brian Speirs at the launch. Nova Scotia is providing a model for an innovative, collaborative approach to building digital collections.

Digital collections developed by NSDCI members cover a variety of subjects, from the lobster industry in River John http://www.parl.ns.ca/projects/lobster/index.htm at PARL, to Mi'kmaq culture and history http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/virtual/mikmaq/ at the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, to an electronic edition of George Elliott Clarke's *Saltwater Spirituals and Deeper Blues* http://www.dal.ca/~etc/clarke/ at Dalhousie University's Electronic Text Centre.

An inventory of digital projects from across the country is maintained by the Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries at the National Library of Canada. Links to the Nova Scotia projects in the inventory can be found at: http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/initiatives-bin/rella?mode=cat&typ=province&cde=NS. "There are currently 60 Nova Scotian digital collections included in the inventory," said Elizabeth Armstrong, "only Ontario has more."

The Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative web site can be found at: http://www.library.ns.ca/services/NSDCI/index.htm.

For more information on the Initiative please contact Steering Committee Chair Bernadette Kennedy, 902.424.3791, or kennedba@gov.ns.ca.



Provincial Librarian Elizabeth Armstrong spoke at the launch of the NSDCI Web Site.

Nova Scotia Provincial Archivist Brian Speirs at the NSDCI launch.

Dr. Louise Spiteri, Assistant Professor, School of Library & Information Studies, Dalhousie Univeristy was one of the presenters at the NSDCI launch.

TIME MANAGEMENT: GETTING THINGS DONE - TELECONFERENCE FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2003

Library workers, records managers, and students, gathered at NSPL, January 24, 2003, to take part in the Time Management program. The session, jointly sponsored by NSPL and CASLIS Atlantic Canada Chapter, included a two-hour live broadcast from the Distance Learning Division, College of DuPage, Glyn Ellyn, IL, featuring presenter Debbie Wilcox Johnson. She focused on the inability to say *no* at work and attributed this in part to such factors as ego, guilt, and stress. Ms. Wilcox Johnson identified barriers to effective time management as inefficient priority management, perfectionism, and everyday time wasters, such as e-mail, meetings, etc. She urged participants to be more self-aware, to recognise what motivates them and what is a time waster, and to learn to negotiate around tasks and assignments. Ms. Wilcox Johnson suggested that the best practices to a more efficient workload management are to find someone else to do the task, to stop doing something, to work smarter, and to learn to say *no*.

Following the live telecast, Penny Logan, Manager, Library Services, Capital District Health Authority, kicked off an on-site group brainstorming activity by giving examples of her time management techniques. Smaller groups discussed and compiled strategies for effective use of time, with each group reporting one or two of their techniques to the larger group.

A videorecording of the teleconference can be borrowed via ILL from NSPL. To search the Professional Development Collection go to NcompasS http://ncompass.library.ns.ca/ and click on NSPL.

REFERENCE ON THE NET

Here are some recent reference questions referred to the Provincial Library, which were answered using resources found on the Internet.

Q. The patron wants to know what the Inuit word for welcome is.

A. There are different words for this, since different areas of the North, have different dialects. It also depends on whether the word is used as a reply to *thank you* or as a greeting. This said, at *Jennifer's Language Page* http://www.elite.net/~runner/jennifers/ scroll down and select *Welcome* in more than 325 languages, then select the letter *I*. Inuktitut, which is the language of the Inuit, is listed here with several words for welcome given.

There is an I upiat Eskimo Dictionary at http://www.alaskool.org/Language/dictionaries/inupiaq/dictionary.htm where you can enter an English word to get it's equivalent in Eskimo or Inuit. The web site of *The Nunavut Handbook* at http://www.arctictravel.com/ has *Useful Phrases* at http://www.arctictravel.com/audio/phrases.html, including *You are welcome* which is *Ilaali*.

Q. What are the growing conditions for the Sea bean (mucuna urens), Sea heart (Entada gigas), Candlenut (Aleurites moluccana), Snuffbox bean (Entada phaseoloides), Tagua nut.

A. *The Plants Database of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service* at http://plants.usda.gov/ and *NewCROP* http://www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/ the database of the Purdue University Center for *New Crops & Plant Products* are sources which have some information on these. For *NewCROP* use the *Crop Index* to look up common or scientific names. Another place to look is the *HortiPlex Database* at http://hortiplex.gardenweb.com/plants/, which brings plant information on the web together. When you search for a particular plant there are links to databases which have information on it.

LINKed

A number of Nova Scotian organizations have produced some very useful databases on attractive, well-organized web sites. This month's Linked column will feature some of these which are on a variety of different topics.

***LeughSeo* at http://www.cbrl.ns.ca/search/leughseo.html is a catalogue of Gaelic books in CBRL and the University College of Cape Breton Library, which was jointly produced by these libraries. It is a winner of the Library Net Best Practices Award for 2001. You can search for material by author, title, or subject.**

***East Coast Birds* at http://museum.gov.ns.ca/mnh/nature/nsbirds/ was produced by the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History with assistance from experts in this area from around the province. Much of the information on this site is from Robie Tufts' book *Birds of Nova Scotia*. Four hundred and eleven birds are listed and there is a colour picture of each along with information on its occurrence in Nova Scotia, a description of it and other remarks.**

***The Nova Scotia Community Organization Network* at http://www.nsnet.org/ is produced by staff of the Technical Resource Centre at the Kings Regional Rehabilitation Centre, Waterville, N.S. It is an attractive and well organized directory of support resources and services for persons with disabilities and health challenges. The directory can be browsed by topic, region and alphabetical listings and searched by keyword.**

The Nova Scotia Barristers' Society has a public information page at http://www.nsbs.ns.ca/public.html where they have brought together information on their web site, which is of interest to the public. Some highlights of this page are links to the *Legal Directory* at http://www.nsbs.ns.ca/legal_dir_home.htm, which lists Nova Scotia lawyers, courts and legal organizations and services, and *Law News Online* at http://mail.nsbs.ns.ca/dbtw-wpd/qsets/LNQBE.HTM . . *Law News Online* is a searchable database of Nova Scotia Court decisions in *Nova Scotia Law News* since July 1997. There is full text of the decisions from January, 1999.

The Mi'kmaq Resource Guide at **http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/virtual/mikmaq/** is a searchable database of Mi'kmaq holdings at Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management. The database includes citations to nearly 300 titles related to the Mi'kmaq and selected items from the Mi'kmaq-related archival holdings, and pictures of artifacts, photographs, paintings, drawings, maps and petroglyphs. The site also has advice for researching Mi'kmaq genealogy and links to other sites with

information about the Mi'kmaq.

Nova Scotia Career Options at **http://careeroptions.ednet.ns.ca/** is produced by the Nova Scotia Department of Education. It is the online version of the print publication *Career Options : an occupational handbook for Nova Scotians*. Click on *Search Occupations* for descriptions of occupations, required qualifications and where to get training for them. There is also a bibliography of related resources and addresses and links to educational institutions.

Web sites which were featured in previous Linked columns are arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at **http://www.library.ns.ca/services/reference/index.htm**. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at **morrisc@gov.ns.ca**.

PROFESSIONAL READING

In this month's column, two recent additions to the professional collection are featured. These items can be borrowed through regular interlibrary loan channels. Please send requests via email to Dale MacMillan **inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca**.

Avery, Elizabeth, Dahlin, Therrin C., Carver, Deborah A. and Library Administration and Management Association Staff Development Committee. - *Staff development : a practical guide*. 3rd ed. Chicago : American Library Association, 2001.

[Call # : PROF 023 .8 Sta]

Members of the Staff Development Committee of the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) offer guidelines for customizing a library staff development program. The text includes sections on basic concepts, building and implementing a staff development program, making the most of trainers, designing instructional programs, and ensuring success. Some of the topics discussed include needs assessment, setting training goals, budgeting, the incorporation of core competencies, mentoring, creating online tutorials, and evaluating programs. The volume includes case studies and sample assessment surveys from both academic and public library settings.

Minton, Frank - *Planned giving for Canadians : a guide to instituting and managing a successful planned giving programme.* 2nd ed. Waterdown, Ont. : Somersmith, c1997.

[Call #: PROF 361 .7632 Min]

This book is intended to be a source of basic information for those in the planned giving field. The chapters in this book provide a blueprint by which a charity of any size can build a planned giving program. This second edition contains additional technical information about the various methods of giving plus practical suggestions for implementing a new planned giving programme or enhancing an

existing one. A resource section at the end of the book includes an explanation of financial terminology, a gift planning glossary and a list of organizations providing various services and products.

Credits go to:
Frank Oram, Professional Services Librarian, NSPL
Ray Whitley, Coordinator, Production, LRT

The Disseminator is an electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, 3770 Kempt Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 4X8. TEL (902) 424-2457; FAX (902) 424-0633

http://www.library.ns.ca/publications/disseminator/

Comments on or suggestions for The Disseminator should be directed to Arlene Watts at **wattsam@gov.ns.ca**

If you would like to be notified when new issues of The Disseminator are published, please subscribe to The Disseminator mailing list at:

http://mail.library.ns.ca/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/dissem